Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 174271
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:JCASWELL
APPROVED BY:S/S -O:TMARTIN
----------080270 261236Z /40
O 261147Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 174271

EXDIS MILITARY PLEASE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT SEOUL 6243 TOSEC STATE JULY 25
QUOTE S E C R E T EOUL 6243

EXDIS

DEPT PLS PASS SECDEF AND CINCPAC FOR ACTION

JOINT EMBASSY/UNC MESSAGE

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR MASS KS US
SUBJ: BROWN/PARK CONVERSATION RE GROUND FORCES WITHDRAWALS
AND COMPENSATORY MEASURES

1. SECRETARY BROWN AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE SCM DELEGATION
MET WITH PRESIDENT PARK AND OTHER SENIOR ROK OFFICIALS FOR
ABOUT AN HOUR AND A HALF ON JULY 25. AFTER EMPHASIZING
THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAD ASKED HIM TO REITERATE OUR
SECURITY COMMITMENT TO THE ROK AND TO DELIVER A LETTER
MAKING THIS CLEAR, THE SECRETARY MADE A SYSTEMATIC PRESENTA-
TION KEYED TO THE QUESTIONS PRESIDENT PARK HAD RAISED
DURING HIS MAY SESSION WITH GENERAL BROWN AND UNDER
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 174271

SECRETARY HABIB.

2. SECRETARY BROWN NOTED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WAS WILL-
ING TO BACKLOAD OUR WITHDRAWALS BY LEAVING THE 2ND
INFANTRY DIVISION HEADQUARTERS AND TWO BRIGADES UNTIL
THE THIRD AND FINAL PHASE. THIS WOULD MEAN 6,000 MEN
WERE TO BE DRAWN-DOWN BY DECEMBER 1978, AN ADDITIONA

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

9,000 BY JUNE 1980, AND THE FINAL GROUP IN 1981-1982,
DEPENDING ON LATER DECISIONS. SECRETARY BROWN SAID WE
FAVORED A NEW COMBINED COMMAND STRUCTURE AND THROUGHT
IT ESSENTIAL THAT THIS BE IN PLACE BEFORE COMPLETION OF
THE FIRST WITHDRAWAL NEXT YEAR, MORE DETAILED STAFF WORK
WAS REQUIRED ON THIS QUESTION WHICH WAS OF CONCERN TO
OUR CONGRESS, AND THERE WAS STILL THE QUESTION OF WHAT
FORCES SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO THE COMMAND IN PEACETIME OR WAR.

3. THE SECRETARY SAID HE WISHED TO BE VERY CLEAR ABOUT
OUR DETERMINATION TO LEAVE THE ROK IN A STRONG SECURITY
POSTURE AS WE WITHDREW OUR GROUND COMBAT FORCES. IN
THIS LIGHT WE WERE CONSIDERING ADDITIONAL SECURITY
ASSISTANCE WHICH WOULD HAVE TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF BOTH ROK
AND U.S. NEEDS, AS WELL AS PROBLEMS OF PHASING, AND
MAINTENANCE CAPABILITY. ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE WOULD
ALSO REQUIRE CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL. ON THE BASIS OF
DISCUSSIONS SO FAR, IT WAS CLEAR WE WOULD HAVE TO UNDER-
TAKE A PROGRAM OF CAREFUL EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS IN THE
CONGRESS AND MAINTAIN SOME FLEXIBILITY AS TO THE TIMING
OF OUR REQUESTS TO THE CONGRESS.

4. SECRETARY BROWN DESCRIBED THREE PARTS TO THE
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WE HAD IN MIND. FIRST, WE WOULD
CONTINUE REGULAR FMS CREDIT SALES AT ABOUT THE $275
MILLION LEVEL REQUESTED THIS YEAR, AT LEAST THROUGH
SECRET

SECRET

FY 1981. SECOND, WE WOULD TRANSFER TO THE ROK AT NO
COST APPROPRIATE ITEMS OF EIGHTH ARMY EQUIPMENT INCLUDING
TWO IMPROVED HAWK BATTALIONNS, AND HONEST JOHN BATTALION,
90 UH-1 HELICOPTERS, 126 TOW'S, FIELD ARTILLERY, AND
TWO BATTALIONS OF ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT. WE WOULD
APPROACH THE CONGRESS FOR LEGISLATION WITH SOME FLEXI-
BILITY TO PERMIT THIS TRANSFER. THIRD, WE WOULD REQUEST
ADDITIONAL FMS CREDIT FINANCING OVER AND ABOVE THE
ALREADY PLANNED LEVELS TO HELP TAKE ACCOUNT OF OUR GROUND
FORCE WITHDRAWALS. THE SECRETARY EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD
IN MIND ROUGHLY 500 MILLION IN FREE TRANSFER OF EQUIP-
MENT, 300 MILLION IN ADDITIONAL FMS WHICH, TOGETHER WITH
FOUR YEARS OF ALREADY PLANNED FMS, WOULD BRING ITS TOTAL
OF THE PLANNED PROGRAM TO APPROXIMATELY 1.9 MILLION.
WE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO ADJUST THIS PROGRAM IN LIGHT
OF KOREAN REACTIONS AND THE SITUATION IN CONGRESS. THE
SECRETARY WAS NOT CERTAIN IF IT WOULD BE BETTER TO SEEK
LEGISLATION THIS YEAR, NEXT YEAR, OR IN BOTH YEARS.

5. AS FOR PRESIDENT PARK'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
TACTICAL FIGHTER AIRCRAFT STATIONED IN KOREA, THE
SECRETARY SAID THAT HE WAS PREPARED TO INCREASE THE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

CURRENT NUMBER FROM 60 TO 72, SUPPLYING THE ADDITIONAL
AIRCRAFT FROM ASSETS LOCATED OUTSIDE WST PAC AND TO
TRANSFER THEM TO KOREA DURING THE WITHDRAWAL PERIOD. AT
THE SAME TIME WE WOULD INCREASE THE FREQUENCY AND SIZE
OF MILITARY EXERCISES AND THE NUMBER OF TEMPORARY DEPLOY-
MENTS TO KOREA. ON ARMS TRANSFERS, THE SECRETARY SAID
THAT HE BELIEVED OUR POLICY WOULD ALLOW US TO ACCOMMODATE
THE ROK'S NEEDS ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, AND HE WENT ON
TO EXPRESS OUR APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE TO PERMIT EVENTUAL
ROK PROCUREMENT OF THE F-16 AND THE IMPROVED
CHAPARRAL. WE WERE PREPARED TO HAVE THE VULCAN (BUT
NOT F-16 OR IMPROVED CHAPARRAL) CO-PRODUCED IN THE ROK.
WE WERE ALSO PREPARED TO CONSIDER ROK ACQUISITION OF A-10
AIRCRAFT. FINALLY, HE NOTED THAT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF
SECRET

SECRET

OUR ARMS CONTROL POLICY, WE WERE PREPARED TO ASSIST ROK
DEFENSE INDUSTRIES, ESPECIALLY ARTILLERY AND AMMUNITION
PRODUCTION.

66. PRESIDENT PARK COMMENTED THAT HE HAD HAD LONG AND
EARNEST DISCUSSIONS WITH BROWN AND HABIB IN MAY. A
BROAD UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED AT
THAT TIME. THE PROBLEM NOW WAS TO WORK OUT DETAILS
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THAT PREVIOUS UNDERSTANDING.
THE PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED THAT SINCE ANY WITHDRAWAL OF
U.S. FORCES WOULD CHANGE THE DELICATE MILITARY BALANCE
IN KOREA, OUR GROUND FORCE WITHDRAWALS SHOULD BE
ACCOMPANIED BY COMPENSATORY MEASURES WHICH SHOULD
PROCEED OR AT LEAST TAKE PLACE IN PARALLEL WITH THE
WITHDRAWALS AND BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE LAST PHASE.
HE SAID BROWN AND HABIB HAD AGREED TO THIS VIEW IN MAY,
AND HE HOPED THAT THE PROGRAM COULD BE CARRIED OUT IN
THIS MANNER WITHOUT FAIL. SECRETARY BROWN ACCEPTED THE
PRINCIPLE THAT OUR COMPENSATORY MEASURES SHOULD PROCEED
IN PARALLEL WITHOUR WITHDRAWALS, BUT SAID HE COULD NOT
ASSURE THE PRESIDENT THAT THEY COULD ALL BE COMPLETED
BEFORE THE WITHDRAWALS. FOR EXAMPLE, OUR FORCES REMAIN-
ING IN KOREA WOULD NEED TO USE THEIR EQUIPMENT WHILE
THEY WERE STILL THERE, AND THERE WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE
PERIOD OF TIME FOR TRAINING OF ROK FORCES. WE WOULD,
NEVERTHELESS, DO OUR BEST TO PHASE THE PROCESS WITH OUR
WITHDRAWAL PATTERN. THE PRESIDENT WENT ON TO STATE THAT
HE BELIEVED THE MOST IMPORTANT MATTER WAS TO AGREE ON
THE ITEMS AND QUANTITIES OF EQUIPMENT REQUIRED BY THE
ROK RATHER THAN THE DOLLAR AMOUNTS WHICH WERE SUBJECT TO
PRICE INFLATION AS WELL AS OTHER CONSIDERATIONS. IF WE
COULD AGREE ON THE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS, THE ROK WOULD
WANT TO OBTAIN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE BY FREE TRANSFER FROM
SECRET

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

EIGHTH ARMY ASSETS, BY FMS CREDIT PURCHASES, OR BY CASH PURCHASES IN THAT ORDER.

7. PRESIDENT PARK QUESTIONED WHETHER WE COULD RETAIN THE BULK OF THE 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION'S COMBAT CAPABILITY EVEN WITH THE CONTEMPLATED BACKLOADING. SECRETARY BROWN EXPLAINED THAT BECAUSE WE COULD WITHDRAW OTHER ELEMENTS OF OUR GROUND FORCES, WE WOULD BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN ABOUT HALF OF THE 2ND INF DIV'S CAPABILITIES UNTIL THE LAST STAGE. THE PRESIDENT SUGGESTED WE MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER FILLING OUT THE REDUCED 2ND DIV EITHER WITH KATUSAS OR ATTACHMENT OF KOREAN INFANTRY UNITS. THE SECRETARY AGREED TO CONSIDER THE SUGGESTION.

8. PRESIDENT PARK CONCLUDED HIS COMMENTS WITH A REQUEST THAT SECRETARY BROWN URGE PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT THE ROK'S SUSTAINED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. HE WAS CONCERNED THAT THERE MIGHT BE FURTHER RESTRICTIONS ON KOREAN EXPORTS, AND THESE WOULD AFFECT KOREA'S ABILITY TO MAINTAIN ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TAKE ON ADDITIONAL BURDEN OF FORCE IMPROVEMENT CAUSED BY OUR FORCE WITHDRAWALS. THE PRESIDENT SAID HE WAS NOT ASKING FOR ADDITIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, ONLY THAT THE U.S. IMPOSE NO FUTHER RESTRICTIONS, ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT, AND CONTINUE ECONOMIC COOPERATON. SECRETARY BROWN AGREED TO SPEAK TO PRESIDENT CARTER NOTING, HOWEVER, THAT WE DO NOT HAVE IN MIND FURTHER RESTRICTIONS AND FULLY RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF KOREA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
SNEIDER
UNQUOTE VANCE

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GROUND FORCES, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE174271
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:JCASWELL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770266-0060
Format: TEL
From: STATE JOINT
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770718/aaaaaoyf.tel
Line Count: 205
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3f208663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1745041
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BROWN/PARK CONVERSATION RE GROUND FORCES WITHDRAWALS AND COMPENSATORY MEASURES
TAGS: MARR, MASS, KS, US, (BROWN, HAROLD), (PARK CHUNG-HUI)
To: CINCPAC
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3f208663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009